

ARPA Proposal Community Feedback Comments

Program	Comment	Comment Upvotes	Ward
Ager Rd-Queens Chapel Alley Improvements/Mejoras de Ager Rd-Queens Chapel	please do improvements for safety and businesses	0	Ward 2
Beautify Alternate Route 1/ Embellecimiento de la ruta 1	Any effort to beautify rt1 should explore options for the removal of the billboards along the road. Echoing what I noted on another proposal, billboards damage the character of communities, degrade the environment, destroy trees, lower property values, and stunt economic growth. And they are, of course, quite ugly. Scenic America https://www.scenic.org/ has lots of resources / strategies for removing existing and preventing future billboards.	1	Ward 4
Beautify Alternate Route 1/ Embellecimiento de la ruta 1	Beautifying our heavily trafficked areas such as this corridor makes a huge impact on the overall impression that one gets from visiting the city. Let's make our roadways more appealing to residents, visitors, neighbors, future business owners, and every passerby. Please consider other areas where this work still needs to continue such as West Hyattsville/Queens Chapel/Hamilton area.	1	Ward 1
Driskell Park Community Building Renovation/Mejoras del Edificio Comunitario	\$500k sounds like an awful lot for new hvac + renovated bathrooms. For that much money it would be great to see a more comprehensive and detailed proposal for use of these funds, including considerations for expansion within that budget.	1	Ward 4
Driskell Park Community Building Renovation/Mejoras del Edificio Comunitario	To echo Sean's comment - why not consider expanding now if the funding may be available? I would like to understand what happened to the project/planning of the 'Reimagine Magruder Park' initiative that took place a few years ago. After an extensive effort to include resident involvement, it seemed to completely disappear. Could that initiative be resurrected and renewed? Finally, it has struck me as strange that the community center at Driskell is not considered as a location for PG Parks and Recreation offerings (classes, etc.). If the community center were to be renovated, I would love to see it repurposed to allow for all kinds of children/youth activities such as those offered currently at other community centers (College Park Community Center is a good example).	1	Ward 1
Housing Manager Position / Puesto de Gestor de Vivienda	What we need is affordable housing which would include housing for seniors and rent control. We need policies that would require landlords to maintain livable conditions in the buildings they own instead of just increasing rents annually without making any improvements. If this person can help with those matters it would be something worth while.	0	Ward 4
HVL Loves the Arts / Hyattsville Ama el Arte	Certainly a worthwhile effort, but I would suggest that there are other avenues/means for offering artistic/musical opportunities such as: - partnering with programs already in place such as Brentwood Arts Exchange and Art Works Now. - using the PG County Parks and Recreation offerings or expanding them to include these musical programs specifically in Hyattsville. To this end, a renovated Community Center that offers Park and Rec programs would be highly appreciated.	0	Ward 1

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	I am a Theatre Teaching Artist and fully support this idea and any other programs that directly put artists in our community to work. I am the co-founder and current President of Teaching Artists of the Mid-Atlantic (TeachingArtists.org), founded in Maryland! Teaching Artists have suffered a catastrophic upheaval during the pandemic. Despite their crucial role in serving an organization's public benefit and mission, they have been the first to be fired, furloughed, or receive reduced work. Historically (even before the pandemic), Teaching Artists were at risk, with the majority working without a labor union advocating on their behalf. Primarily hired as part-time or independent contractors, often paid by the hour or the length of service, they face significant obstacles without the traditional benefits of healthcare contributions, pensions, sick leave, and the security of tenure. The local region has many arts organization partners. Hyattsville is home to many artists from various artistic mediums who identify as performers, community artists, craftspeople, cultural bearers, and more! We must support Hyattsville and the surrounding area's arts organizations. They are essential to a healthy arts ecosystem. Yet the arts ecosystem is very complex, and sadly supports inequities artists, including me, are working to resolve. Art organizations have missions that limit their ability to amplify and celebrate all art forms and all cultures. Arts organizations have overhead costs that hinder paying equitable wages to artists who are small businesses. Arts organizations employ artists who live across the DMV, sometimes overlooking resident Hyattsville artists. These factors have caused several artistic colleagues to move away from Hyattsville during the pandemic to communities that are more supportive and affordable for artists. Support Hyattsville and the surrounding area's arts organizations; we must also devise programs and initiatives to fund artists directly. We need specific programs that support teaching artists as creative entrepreneurs and contributors who operate as small businesses who must be included in all		
HVL Loves the Arts / Hyattsville Ama el Arte		0	Ward 1
Hyattsville Tree Canopy Restoration/Restauración de copas de árboles	Yes please.	1	Ward 4
PD Recruitment Advertising / DP Publicidad en Reclutamiento	I'd prefer not to see us spend any city/arpa funding on billboards, which damage the character of communities, degrade the environment, destroy trees, lower property values, and stunt economic growth. Let's work to get rid of the existing billboards in Hyattsville rather than supporting the enrichment of companies that have inflicted this blight on our community.	1	Ward 4
PD Recruitment Advertising / DP Publicidad en Reclutamiento	Digital advertising to targeted online audiences is much more effective than a one month billboard advertisement. Highly recommend identifying digital channels like google advertising and Instagram ads to reach a receptive audience.	0	Ward 4
PD Recruitment Advertising / DP Publicidad en Reclutamiento	While I would support advertising in general I think billboards are unsightly and the wrong way to go.	2	Ward 4
PD Recruitment Advertising / DP Publicidad en Reclutamiento	I would also question the use of the billboard. There must be better advertising strategies (such as those already suggested in other comments).	2	Ward 1

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Public Wifi / Wifi Público	With the widespread use of data plans on personal phones + so many public places already offering wi-fi (restaurants, library, etc), this seems like an unnecessary use of funding.	0	Ward 1
Public Wifi / Wifi Público	I want a bathroom in every park before I am worrying about internet	0	Ward 2
Purchase of Solar Messaging Boards/ Compra de Paneles Solares de mensaj	This seems like an excessive price tag for signs that, quite frankly, will go unnoticed or unused. Also, consider that these signs will become obsolete in a few years (new technology, etc). Why not invest instead in a comprehensive city plan to revitalize signage all over the city, including the Welcome to Hyattsville and You are Leaving Hyattsville signs as well as street signs. I think the current classic signs with the city logo are perfectly fine (and lovely!) - they may just need a new coat of paint! Coordinating signage with the same Hyattsville logo could be added to some of our neighborhoods such as 'You are entering: Wards 1-5, etc, arts district, historic district, etc) and really add some curb appeal to some drab curbs around town.	0	Ward 1
Purchase of Solar Messaging Boards/ Compra de Paneles Solares de mensaj	I have encountered these in other cities, they make a great difference in getting info that is timely to people. They improve the look of areas.	0	Ward 2
School Emergency Preparedness Kits/ Kits Escolares de Emergencia	We need keep our kids safe. This is important.	0	Ward 2
School Emergency Preparedness Kits/ Kits Escolares de Emergencia	We have an obligation to do everything we can to make kids feel safe and comfortable enough to enjoy learning and not feel that school is an unsafe place that they would rather not be. Frankly home schooling sounds much more desirable right now.	0	Ward 4
Shuttle Bus-Circulator Study/Parada de Autobús-Estudio de Circulación	This seems fiscally irresponsible to me. \$Millions annually based on a study that was conducted in 2018? Has their been public outcry for this?	0	Ward 2
Staff Mental Wellness Initiative/ Iniciativa de Bienestar Mental del Personal	All this money for motivational messages? Have the people that are work for in the city asked for this?	0	Ward 2
The Spot Placemaking Project/ Proyecto de Nuevos Espacios	The Spot as it currently exists would certainly benefit from landscaping and amenities.	1	Ward 1
VR Training Technology - PD / Tecnología de Entrenamiento en RV - DP	As a family member of an officer on the west coast, his department has these training tools and he finds them extremely valuable. For more proof of its usefulness I did a google search and found many departments are providing this training tool to their police departments. Google "VR training development used by police departments"	0	Ward 4